

Message Text

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TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

SECSTATE WASHDC 3921

USIA VOA MIAMI

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 4387

USIAC

ATTN: IOP/M, IPS, IBS, RIM, ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, BR, XF, PO, UR, NATO, SALT

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- JUNE 15-17

1. PRESIDENT NIXON'S MIDEAST TRIP: PROMINENT MEDIA PLAY CONTINUES. SAMPLE NEWSPAPER FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES: LIBERAL FOLHA DE SAO PAULO: "NIXON GIVES NUCLEAR AID TO EGYPTIANS" (JUNE 15). INDEPENDENT JORNAL DO BRASIL (RIO): "NIXON PROMISES KING FAISAL TO INCREASE MILITARY AID"; INFLUENTIAL O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO: "NIXON ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS OFFERING AID" (JUNE 16). ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTO OF PRESIDENT NIXON VISITING GOLDA MEIR, JORNAL DO BRASIL CARRIES REPORT HEADLINES "U.S. EXPLAINS TO ISRAEL PACT WITH EGYPT," SAYING THAT "PRESIDENT NIXON YESTERDAY ASSURED THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT THAT THE NUCLEAR COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH EGYPT WILL NOT HAVE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS. ..."; CONSERVATIVE O GLOBO (RIO): "KISSINGER WILL TRY DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH PALESTINIANS"; STORY LEAD SAYS THAT LEBANESE PAPER AL HAYAT INFORMED THAT PRESIDENT NIXON, SEEKING A LASTING PEACE FOR MIDEAST, INSTRUCTED SECSTATE KISSINGER TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH PALESTINIAN LEADERS. ..." (JUNE 17).

2. JORNAL DO BRASIL FRONT-PAGES REPORT WITH HEADLINE "SPINOLA

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AND NIXON DISCUSS (MILITARY) BASES TOMORROW IN AZORES"; STORY

LEAD SAYS THAT "RETURNING FROM HIS MIDEAST TRIP, PRESIDENT NIXON WILL STAY OVERNIGHT IN AZORES WHERE HE WILL MEET WITH THE PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT ANTONIO SPINOLA TO DISCUSS RENEWAL OF THE U.S.-PORTUGAL AGREEMENT ON THE AMERICAN MILITARY BASES IN AZORES. ... ANOTHER SUBJECT WHICH THEY MIGHT DISCUSS IS THE FUTURE OF THE NATO BASE IN CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, ... WHICH HAS STRATEGIC VALUE FOR WESTERN HEMISPHERE'S DEFENSE. ..." (JUNE 17).

3. CHARGES AGAINST SECSTATE KISSINGER: CONSERVATIVE CORREIO BRAZILIENSE (LEADING CIRCULATION IN BRASILIA) FRONT-PAGES UPI REPORT ON STATEMENT BY FORMER FBI DIRECTOR WILLIAM D. RUCKLESHAUS ON CHARGES OF INVOLVEMENT OF THE SECSTATE IN TELEPHONE TAPPING. REPORT IS HEADLINES "KISSINGER DECLARED INNOCENT" (JUNE 17). SAMPLE COMMENTARIES:

(A) O GLOBO FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL ENTITLED "THE AMERICAN AUTOPHAGIA" SAYS "... MAKING A CLAMOROUS MISTAKE IN REGARD TO KISSINGER, THE AMERICAN MEDIA AND POLITICIANS WHO JOINED THA ACCUSATIONS IN REALITY ARE FAVORING PRESIDENT NIXON'S SITUATION, ... BY SUGGESTING LACK OF GENERAL CRITERIA IN MAKING ACCUSATION AND IN ESTABLISHING AN MIXTURE OF POSITIONS WHICH IS PERFECTLY PLEASANT FOR THE PRESIDENT. AND, WORSE THAN THIS, THOSE WHO ACCUSE NIXON AND KISSINGER ARE ASSUMING BELLIGERENT CHARACTERISTICS AS IF THEY WERE SERVING INTERESTS CONTRARY TO THE MIDEAST (PEACE) ACCORDS AND TO THE WHOLE 'DETENTE' POLICY. ... KISSINGER'S ENERGEETIC AND IMPRESSIVE REACTION FITS PERFECTLY WITH THE LINE OF GREATNESS OF THIS STATESMAN FOR WHOM UNTIL NOW THE ONLY THREAT CAPABLE OF HUMBLING HIS BRAVERY AND OPTIMISM WAS THAT OF INGRATITUDE. INDEED, WHILE HE WAS CARRYING OUT IN MIDEAST THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN RECENT TIMES -- EXPOSING HIMSELF TO THE EROSION OF ENIGMATIC NEGOTIATIONS AND CONSTANT TERRORISTIC THREATS -- A POLITICAL SCHEME IN WASHINGTON WAS CONSPIRING TO DEMOLISH THE ADMIRABLE ARTISAN OF CONCILIATION AMONG PEOPLES. HIS RESIGNATION -- A FACT RECOGNIZED IN THE U.S. AND IN THE WORLD AT LARGE -- WOULD REPRESENT A CATASTROPHE. THOSE WHO TRY TO PROVOKE IT ARE WORKING NOT ONLY AGAINST PEACE BUT ALSO AGAINST MANKIND'S REASONS TO DESERVE PEACE." (JUNE 15).

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(B) PRO-GOB DIARIO DE NOTICIAS (RIO) CARRIES COLUMNIST PAULO DE CASTRO'S ARTICLE COMMENTING ON U.S. SENATE REACTION IN FAVOR OF SECSTATE KISSINGER. AGREEING WITH NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST ANTHONY LEWIS' RECENT ARTICLE, CASTRO SAYS: "THE PROBLEM AT STAKE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HENRY KISSINGER, THAT IS TO SAY -- IT IS THE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY'S INTEGRITY. THIS IS WHAT NEEDS TO BE PRESERVED, NOT THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF A SECSTATE WHO -- BE HE AS BRILLIANT AS HE IS -- CANNOT REPLACE

THE U.S. PRINCIPLES AND 'RULES OF THE GAME' WHICH EMBODY A
DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURE AND TRADITIONS OF DECORUM AND URBANITY."
(JUNE 15).

4. O GLOBO BEGAN JUNE 16 TO PUBLISH DAILY THE PORTUGUESE
VERSION OF TAD SZUC'S SERIES OF ARTICLES ENTITLED
"KISSINGER'S TECHNIQUE" EXPLAINING THE SECSTATE DIPLOMATIC
APPROACHES.

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5. PRESIDENT NIXON'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO USSR: JORNAL DO
BRASIL FRONT-PAGES A REPORT WITH HEADLINES "WATERGATE LEADS
(U.S.) NEGOTIATOR TO LEAVE SALT" SAYING THAT PAUL NITZE,
AMERICAN NEGOTIATION IN THE SALT TALKS, RESIGNED BECAUSE HE
CONSIDERS THAT PRESIDENT NIXON, WEAKENED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF
THE WATERGATE SCANDAL TO CONDUCT DOMESTIC POLICY, IS NOT IN
A POSITION TO SIGN WITH THE SOVIET UNION AN ACCORD ON STRATEGIC
ARMAMENT WHICH CAN PLEASE THE U.S. ... OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT
NITZE'S RESIGNATION REPRESENTS A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR THE U.S."
(JUNE 16). SAME PAPER'S JUNE 17 ISSUE FRONT-PAGES REPORT
WITH HEADLINE "BREZHNEV SAYS THAT HE WILL SIGN ACCORDS WITH

THE U.S. " SAYING THAT "LEONID BRZHNEV ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY
THAT DURING PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO MOSCOW NEW U.S.-USSR
AGREEMENTS WILL BE SIGNED. HE DID NOT EXPLAIN THE NATURE
OF SUCH ACCORDS, STATING ONLY THAT "THEY WILL PLEASE BOTH
THE SOVIET AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLES. ..." O ESTADO DE SAO
PAULO EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON SECSTATE KISSINGER'S STAMENT
RE MANIPULATION OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: "... ONE CAN AFFIRM
THAT WHEN HENRY KISSINGER ASSURES THAT THE U.S. PRESIDENT
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WILL NOT MANIPULATE THE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY TO FAVOR HIS
POLITICAL AND PERSONAL INTERESTS, ... SUCH AN ASSUARANCE
INSTEAD OF DENYING SEEMS TO REINFORCE THE ACCUSATIONS AND
SUSPICIONS ... THAT IN MOSCOW NIXON WILL NOT DEFEND WITH THE
NECESSARY VIGOR THE GLOBAL INTERESTS OF THE U.S. AND WESTERN
HEMISPHERE. ..." (JUNE 16).
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